

CHAPTER 6

CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

6.0 CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

An environmental assessment (EA) must be prepared when a federal government agency considers approving an action within its jurisdiction that may impact the human environment. An EA aids federal officials in making decisions by presenting information on the physical, biological, and social environment of a proposed project and its alternatives. The first step in preparing an EA is to determine the scope of the project, the range of action alternatives, and the impacts to be included in the document.

The Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations (40 CFR 1500-1508) require an early scoping process to determine the issues related to the proposed action and alternatives that the EA should address. The purpose of the scoping process is to identify important issues, concerns, and potential impacts that require analysis in the EA and to eliminate insignificant issues and alternatives from detailed analysis.

The Pacific Rim Shallow Gas Project EA was prepared by a third-party contractor working under the direction of and in cooperation with the lead agency for the project, which is the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Rock Springs Field Office, Rock Springs, Wyoming.

6.1 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A Scoping Notice was prepared and submitted to the public by the BLM on October 17, 2003 requesting input into the proposed Pacific Rim project. Scoping documents were sent out to the public listed on the BLM mailing list, as well as organizations, groups, and individuals requesting a copy of the scoping document.

There were fifteen (15) written responses received during the scoping period in response to this project. These written responses did not state a position in regard to the project but provided concerns and suggested mitigation if the project were implemented. The issues and concerns identified by the public during the scoping period are summarized in Chapter 1.

During preparation of the EA, the BLM and the consultant interdisciplinary team (IDT) have communicated with, and received or solicited input from various federal, State, county, and local agencies, elected representatives, environmental and citizens groups, industries, and individuals potentially concerned with issues regarding the proposed drilling action. The contacts made are summarized in the following sections.

The following organizations/individuals either provided comment or were provided the opportunity to comment during the scoping period.

CHAPTER 6: CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

FEDERAL AGENCIES

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency,
Region 8
U.S. Senator Michael B. Enzi

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
U.S. Representative Barbara Cubin
U.S. Senator Craig Thomas

STATE AGENCIES

Governor, Dave Freudenthal
State Representatives
Wyoming Department of Transportation
Wyoming Oil and Gas Conservation Commission
Wyoming Department of Environmental
Quality

State Senators
Wyoming Office of Federal Land Policy
Wyoming Game and Fish Department
Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office

COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Sweetwater County Commissioners

Sweetwater County Planner

MUNICIPALITIES

Mayor of Rock Springs
Mayor of Superior

Mayor of Green River
Postmaster of Farson

NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBES

Eastern Shoshone National
Northern Ute Cultural Committee
Shoshone-Bannock Tribes

Northern Arapaho Business
Shoshone-Bannock Tribal Office

LOCAL MEDIA

A press release was sent to local media.

LANDOWNERS, INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVES, AND GRAZING PERMITTEES

This scoping notice has been sent to known property owners, industry representatives, and grazing permittees that would be affected by this project.

PUBLIC LAND USERS AND USER GROUPS

National Wildlife Federation
Oregon/California Trails Association
Southwest Wyoming Industrial Association
People for the West
Independent Petroleum Assoc. of Mountain States
Petroleum Association of Wyoming
Sierra Club Northern Plains Representative
Sierra Club – Wyoming Chapter

Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation
Rock Springs Grazing Assoc.
Biodiversity Conservation Alliance
The Wilderness Society
The Nature Conservancy
Trout Unlimited
Western Mule Deer Foundation
Wyoming Outdoor Council

CHAPTER 6: CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

Environmental Defense Fund

Wyoming Public Lands Council

6.2 LIST OF PREPARERS

The following tables identify the core BLM IDT (Table 6-1) and the consultant IDT (Table 6-2) that were principally involved with preparing this EA.

Table 6-1. List of BLM Interdisciplinary Reviewers

Name	Responsibility
ROCK SPRINGS FIELD OFFICE	
Darlene Horsey	Project Manager
John MacDonald	Soils/Pipeline construction/reclamation
Susan Davis	Petroleum Engineering
Jim Dunder	Wildlife/T & E Issues
Chris Durham	Wildlife/T & E Issues
Kevin Lloyd	Range Management
Jim Glennon	Botany
Terry A. Del Bene	Cultural Resources
Jo Foster	Recreation
Jennifer Bates	Realty
Dennis Doncaster	Hydrology/Water Quality
John Henderson	Fishery Biology
Steve Wiig	Geology/Paleontology
Stephen Boyer	Transportation
Angelina Pryich	Writer/Editor
Mike Holbert	Field Manager
Ted Murphy	Assistant Field Manager – Land and Minerals
Bernie Weynand	Assistant Field Manager - Resources

CHAPTER 6: CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

Table 6-1. List of BLM Interdisciplinary Reviewers (cont.)

Name	Responsibility
WYOMING STATE OFFICE	
Susan Caplan	Air Quality
Roy Allen	Socioeconomics
Janet Kurman	Environmental Protection Specialist/NEPA Coordinator
Vickie Mistarka	Minerals and Lands/Fluid Minerals
Brenda Vosika Neuman	Physical Scientist
STATE OF WYOMING	
Darla Potter	Visibility, Smoke Mgt., EIS Coordinator

Table 6-2. List of Consultant Interdisciplinary Team EA Preparers

Principal Interdisciplinary Team		
Name	Affiliation	Responsibility
Gary Holsan	Gary Holsan Environmental Planning	Interdisciplinary Team Leader, Project Manager
Doug Henderer	Buys and Associates	Air Quality
Jana Pastor	Western Archaeological Services	Cultural Resources
Charles Bucans, P.E.	Star Valley Engineering	Editor/Writer
Larry Bennett	Hayden-Wing Associates	Vegetation, Wetlands, Wild Horses
Larry Hayden-Wing	Hayden-Wing Associates	Wildlife, T,E, & S Species
Gus Winterfeld	Erathem Vanir Geological	Geology, Soils, Paleontology
Mike Evers	WWC Engineering	Water Quality
George Blankenship	Blankenship Associates	Socioeconomics, Safety, Transportation, Noise
Lloyd Levy	Lloyd Levy Consulting	Recreation, Visual